(f) Improving and expanding programme for teacher education by providing network of centres for in-service and continuing education of school teachers;

(g) Special efforts to eradicate illiteracy among adults through total literacy campaigns.

Listing of authorised medical attendants for Kendriya Vidyalayas

*246. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN:

PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVEOLPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that AMAs (Authorised Medical Attendants) for different localities where Kendriya Vidyalayas are located are listed every year by Assistant Commissioners;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such an action has not been taken by the concerned officers of many regions during the last two to three years; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the K.V.S. in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. This power has been delegated to all Regional Assistant Commissioners to approve Authorised Medical Attendants out of the panel drawn up by the Central Government Employees' Welfare Coordination Committees.

(b) and (c) The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan have confirmed that the scheme of appointment of Authorised Medical Attendants is in operation.

Restoration of the Cut imposed by U.G.C.

*247. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 46 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th July, 1992 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission has reduced the grant to Delhi University by 18 per cent as compared to that of the last year;

(b) whether the adverse effect of such reduction on the functioning of the University was taken into account;

(c) whether other Central Universities have also been affected; and

(d) whether such cuts would be restored?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir. According to information furnished by UGC, the Non-Plan maintenance grant of the Commission to Delhi University during current financial year 92-93 is expected to be of the same level as for last year. The Commission provided a Non-Plan grant of Rs. 2501.40 lakhs to Delhi University in 91-92.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Central Universities are fully funded by the Central Government through the University Grants Commission (UGC). A major share of UGC's Non-Plan budget is made available to Central Universities and Delhi Colleges for their maintenance expenditure. Keeping in view the present constraint on the availability of financial resources. Government has decided to maintain the level of Non-Plan expenditure of all Ministries/Departments and autonomous bodies during 1992-93 at the level of last year. This has imposed resource constraints on UGC as well as Central Universities.

The Minister of Human Resource Development held consultations with Chairman, UGC and Vice-Chancellors of Central Universities to consider measures to mitigate the financial difficulties being faced by them. On the basis of these consultations, the UGC have withdrawn the Commission's earlier orders of freezing the maintenance grants.

National Action Plan for Children

*248. DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Action Plan for Children is under Government's consideration as part of its commitment to the United Naitons World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children (September 1990);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for its implementation including the finances required therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) A National Plan of Action for Children has been approved by the Government for implementation upto 2000 A.D. as part of its commitment to the United Nations World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children. The Government has also been committed to the cause of children and provisions for child development have been made under the various Five Year Plans.

(b) The Plan of Action would cover Child Care and Development in the fields of health, nutrition, education, water supply, sanitaion, welfare, environment and disadvantaged children including girls among other groups.

(c) The National Plan of Action would be implemented by concerned Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India from their Plan funds.

Workshop on the problem of neglected children

*249. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SMT. VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a two-day national workshop on the problem of neglected children was held on June 19-20, 1992;

(b) if so, what are the main observations and suggestions made at the workshop; and

(c) what is the number of neglected children in India, indicating the State-wise and Union Territory-wise break-up thereof and what are the broad features of the programme, if any, contemplated under the Eighth Five Year Plan for rehabilitation of these neglected children?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The observations and suggestions made at the workshop include (a) priortisation of categories amongst neglected children and formulation of different strategies, policies and programmes for different target groups; (b) amending certain provision of JJ Act, 1986 so as to strengthen provisions relating to child abuse and neglect; (c) effective enforcement of the Orphanages and other Charitable Homes (Supervision and Control) Act, 1960; (d) eliciting active cooperation of voluntary organisations in schemes for street children & (e) to devise ways and means for mobilising community resources for the welfare of neglected children.

As no statistical survey has taken so far, the number of neglected children in the country is not available.

During the Eighth Five Year Plan the Government propose to start two new central schemes for the welfare of Neglected Children.